received any recommendation from International Union of Geological Sciences to control loss of life and property in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increasing the cost of road projects

4601. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NHAI has sought permission from the Uttar Pradesh Government to increase project costs for an Expressway on NH-8;

(b) whether it is a fact that NHAI frequently submits project cost overruns to various State Governments;

(c) whether it is a fact that NHAI has not been able to complete projects without cost overruns;

(d) to what extent is NHAI able to properly assess the costs of any new project realistically; and

(e) the steps proposed to get all project costs assessed by an outside expert agency by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The cost of projects are assessed by reputed independent DPR consultants appointed through transparent and open competitive bidding.

Bridges under construction

4602. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of bridges presently under construction by his Ministry, State-wise;

(b) the time-frame by when the construction would be completed; and

(c) the costs involved in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) There are 562 bridges presently under construction on National

Highways in the country. The state-wise details are given with Statement (*See* below). These are under various stages of progress and are likely to be completed during the period from May 2005 to March 2010. The cost involved is Rs. 555.13 crores excluding the cost of bridges being constructed under National Highways Development Programme phase-I & II, in which cost of the bridges is included in the road packages.

Statement

State-wise details of bridges under Construction on National Highways

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total number of bridges under construction	Total anticipated Completion cost
1	Andhra Pradesh	43	2345.42
2	Arunachal Pradesh	11	8261.22
3	Assam	8	2241.85
4	Bihar	75	3480.98
5	Chhattisgarh	7	1722.1
6	Delhi	10	0 *
7	Gujarat	9	0 *
8	Haryana	10	115
9	Himachal Pradesh	6	2012.55
10	Jammu & Kashmir	11	982.04
11	Jharkhand	49	1109.69
12	Karnataka	33	704.36
13	Kerala	11	686
14	Madhya Pradesh	4	191.12
15	Maharashtra	41	1571.24
16	Manipur	5	1225.66
17	Meghalaya	11	6222.93
18	Mizoram	3	749.36
19	Nagaland	2	511.05
20	Orissa	23	1480.15
21	Rajasthan	2	1058.85
22	Tamil Nadu	55	4839.22
23	Tripura	10	1418.7
24	Uttaranchal	18	6609.57
25	Uttar Pradesh	80	3906.66
26	West Bengal	25	2067.5
	TOTAL	562	55513.22

*** The cost of bridges have been included in the total road package of NHDP.**